

# Using IFCB to monitor filamentous cyanobacteria in the Baltic Sea

## Automated data pipeline and CNN based classification system

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Academy of Finland project  
**FASTVISION**



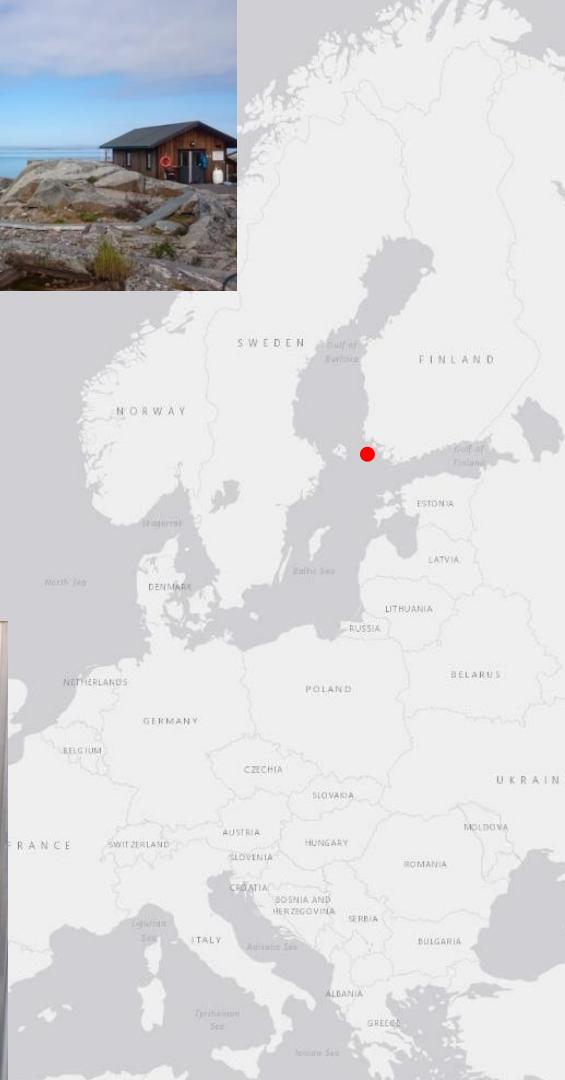
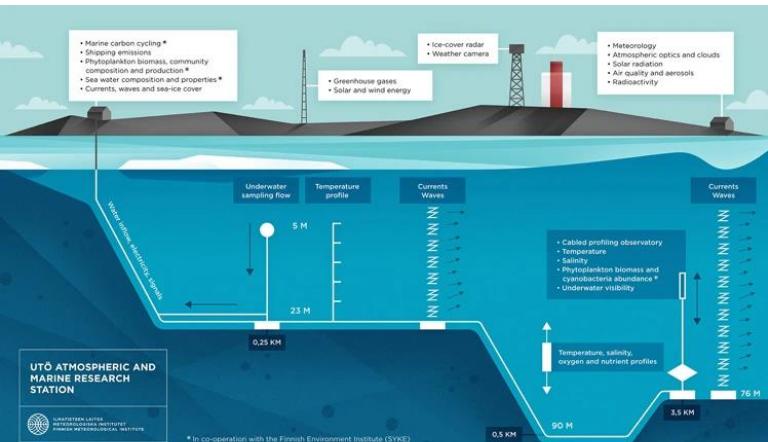
# Imaging FlowCytobot - IFCB

- Imaging flow cytometer
- Takes images of phytoplankton cells and colonies inside the size range of 10-150 $\mu$ m
- Can be operated remotely mounted on a flow through system at a research station (like in Utö), ship of opportunity, put to measure directly to the sea or used in a laboratory environment etc..
- Takes a sample of 5ml with approx. 20 min interval
- The camera is triggered by chlorophyll-a or scatter
- Even as many as ~30 000 high resolution images / hour
- 150  $\mu$ m mesh in IFCB inlet to prevent it from clogging
- Data analyzed with image recognition algorithm

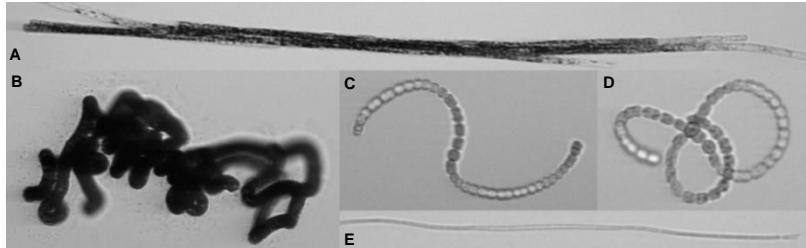


# UTÖ Marine Research Station joint with Finnish Meteorological Institute

- Underwater pump with inlet at 5 m depth, 250 m offshore
- Water distributed to different sensors inside the station cabin
- Represents pelagial community of a mixed surface layer in brackish environment (salinity ~ 6 psu)
- Multiple parallel measurements from sea to atmosphere
- Continuous imaging flow cytometer observations from multiple years
- Light microscopy samples of cyanobacteria bloom in 2018

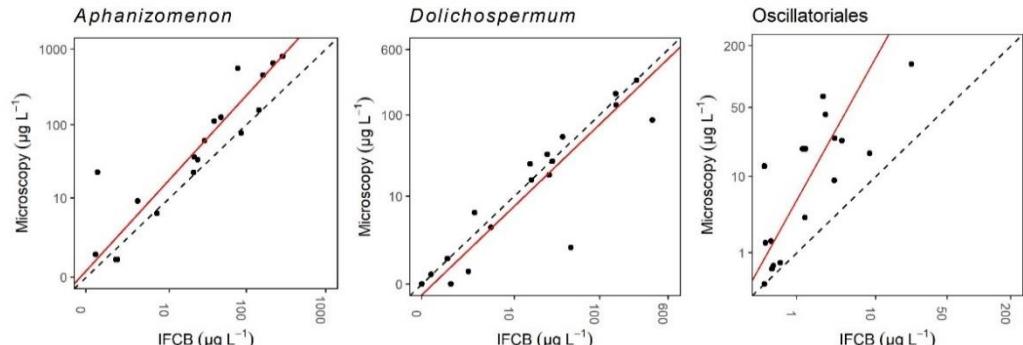


# Cyanobacteria blooms in the Baltic Sea



Common filamentous species

- *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae* (A)
- *Dolichospermum* spp. (C,D)
- *Nodularia spumigena* (B)
- Oscillatoriales (E)



(Kraft et al. 2021 Front Mar Sci)

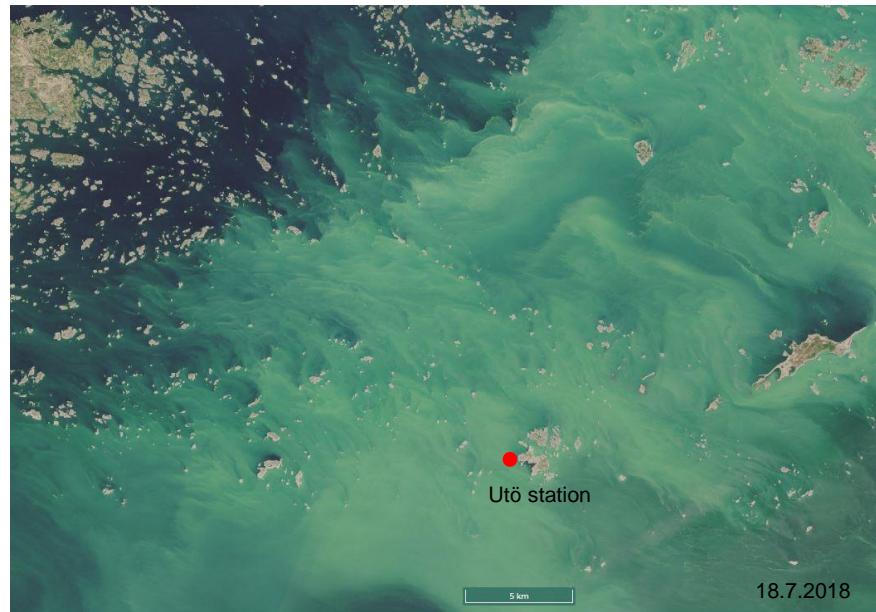


Image analysis was performed using the publicly available code by H. Sosik et al. (Sosik & Olson 2007)

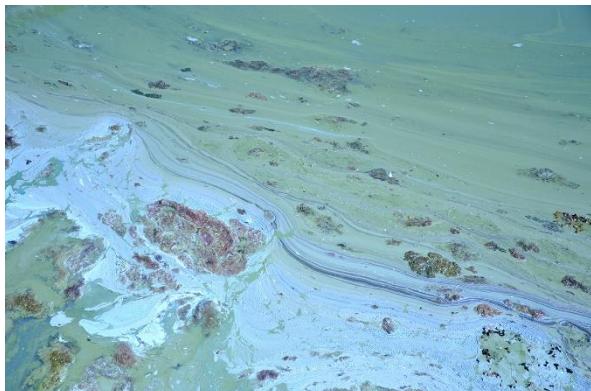
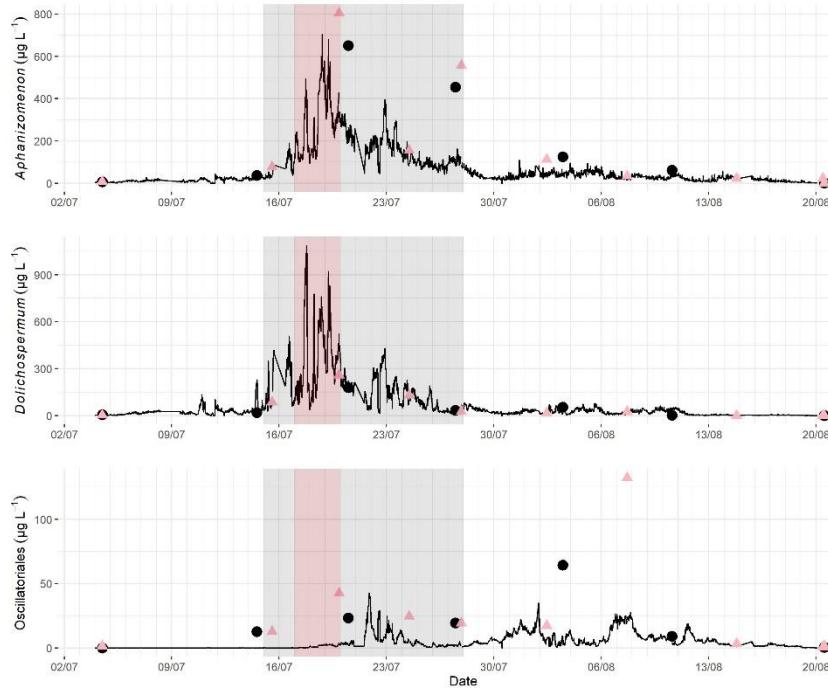
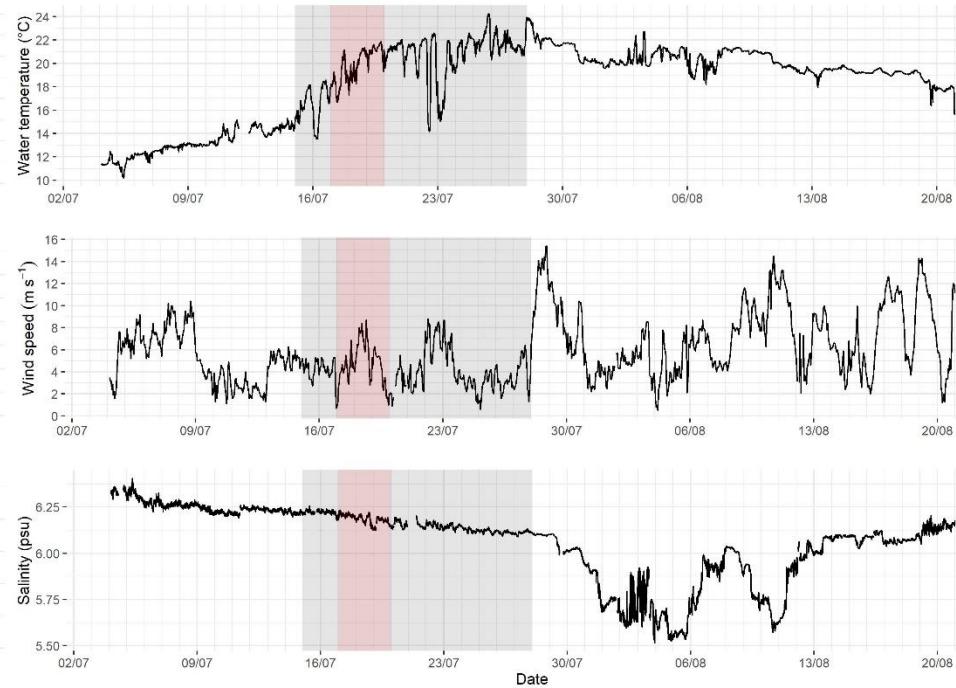


Photo by Lauri Laakso

# High frequency phytoplankton observations connected with changes in the environment can help to understand mechanisms of the blooms

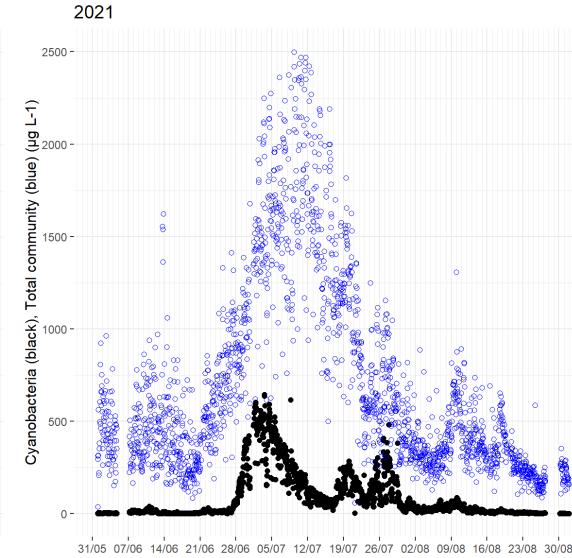
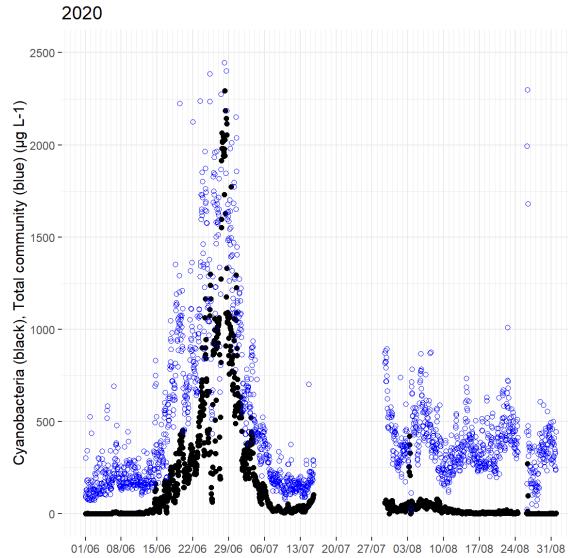
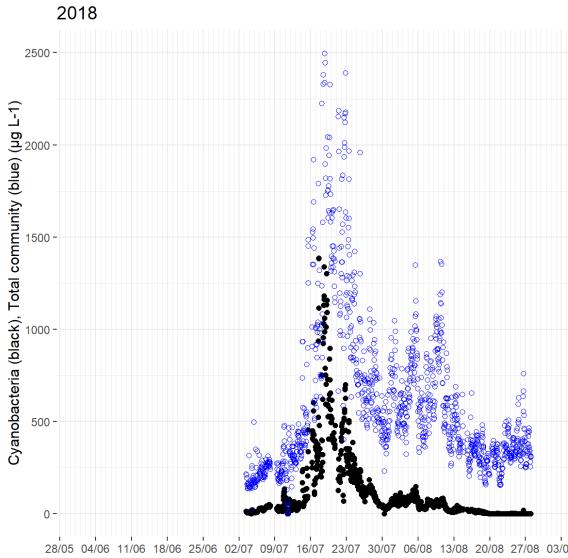


bloom period highlighted in grey (biomass > approximately  $100 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ )  
bloom peak period highlighted in red (the days with the highest peaks)  
light microscopy counts ● flow-through ▲ pump inlet



-> species dynamics were connected  
to changes in the water mass

# Cyanobacteria blooms in 2018, 2020, 2021



# Near-real time classification via Convolutional Neural Networks

## Imaging FlowCytobot

Finnish Environment Institute

Utö Atmospheric and Marine Research Station



SYKE



Temporary file server

Finnish Meteorological Institute



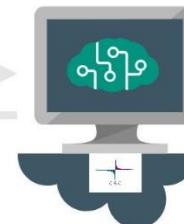
Allas object storage

IT Center for Science Ltd.

Images

## Virtual machine for analysis

Classification and biovolume computation

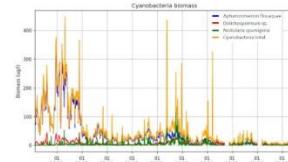


Labels &  
Biomasses



End users

Access to selected data &  
Web interface for visualization



- Training data set
- <http://doi.org/10.23728/b2share.abf913e5a6ad47e6baa273ae0ed6617a>
- Evaluation data set
- <http://doi.org/10.23728/b2share.7c273b6f409c47e98a868d6517be3ae3>
- Visualization still under development
- <https://plankton.live/>
- <https://ifcb.plankton.live/timeline?dataset=uto>
- <https://swell.fmi.fi/hab-info/>

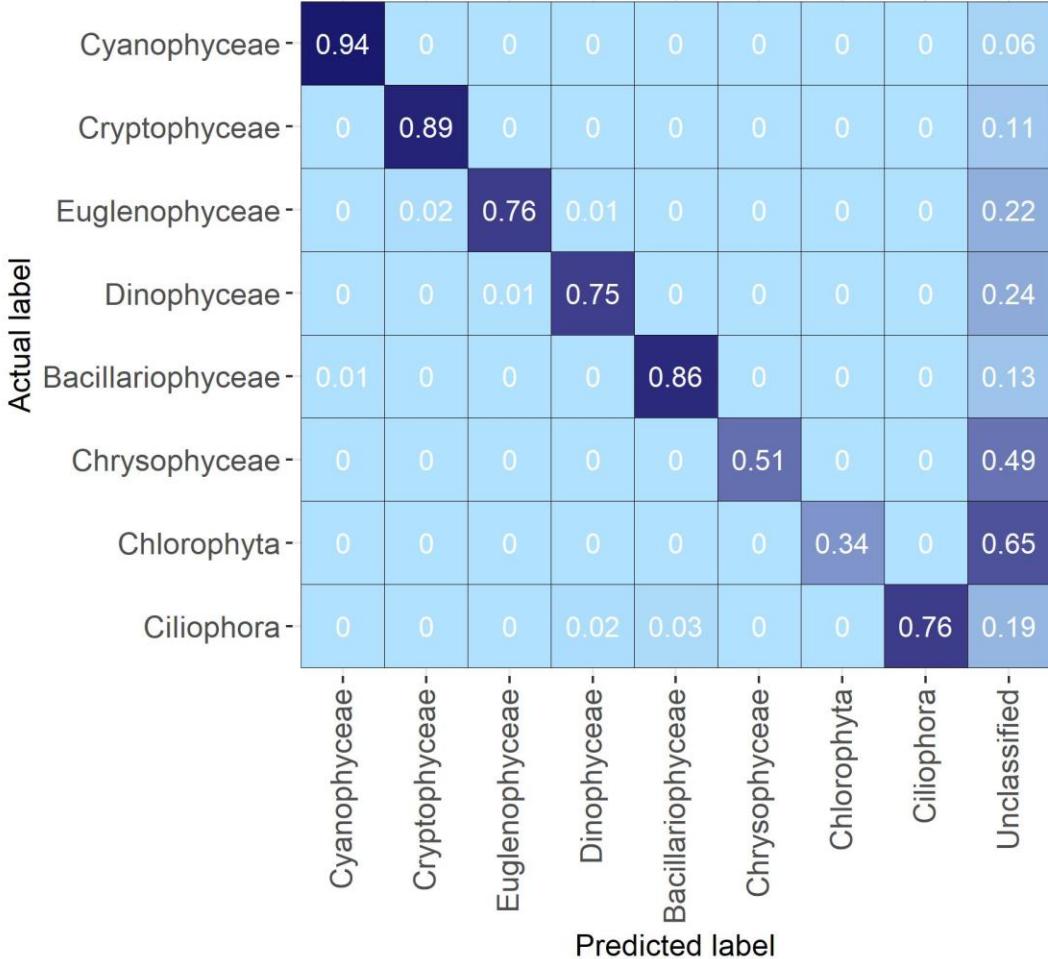
# Classifier performance

- Kraft et al. 2022 Front Mar Sci
- Weighted F1-score of test data of our labeled image data set 0.95
- Weighted F1-score of our evaluation data (59 natural samples annotated entirely) 0.83
- Class-specific thresholds are used for filtering out the unidentifiable images, determined with our test set complemented with unidentifiable images (initial situation -> to be finetuned as data accumulates)
- ND in the Evaluation Data means “Not Determined”, the metrics were not calculated for classes with <10 images

Class / taxonomic group	Training	Validation	Test				2021 data			
	N	Thre	N	Pr	Re	F1	N	Pr	Re	F1
Oscillatoriaceae	2664	0.31	888	0,99	1,00	0,99	3893	0,98	0,98	0,98
<i>Monoraphidium contortum</i>	196	0.69	66	0,98	0,98	0,98	439	0,99	0,96	0,97
<i>Skeletonema marinoi</i>	2477	0.46	825	1,00	0,99	0,99	7402	0,99	0,94	0,97
<i>Heterocapsa triquetra</i>	1966	0.39	655	0,98	0,97	0,97	2267	0,92	0,95	0,94
<i>Cryptophyceae / Teleaulax sp.</i>	4098	0.53	1366	0,96	0,97	0,96	16952	0,97	0,90	0,93
<i>Aphanizomenon flos-aquae</i>	4193	0.24	1398	0,97	1,00	0,98	1849	0,87	0,98	0,92
<i>Peridiniella catenata</i> chain	116	0.7	38	0,97	1,00	0,99	89	0,99	0,87	0,92
<i>Dolichospermum sp. / Anabaenopsis sp.</i>	7368	0.38	2456	0,98	0,99	0,98	790	0,88	0,96	0,92
<i>Pauliella taeniata</i>	71	0.62	24	1,00	0,96	0,98	56	0,96	0,86	0,91
<i>Oocystis sp.</i>	505	0.5	169	0,88	0,93	0,90	161	0,91	0,89	0,90
<i>Mesodinium rubrum</i>	679	0.44	227	0,96	0,95	0,96	560	0,92	0,86	0,89
<i>Melosira arctica</i>	26	0.3	8	0,73	1,00	0,84	58	0,85	0,91	0,88
<i>Dolichospermum sp. / Anabaenopsis sp. coiled</i>	1502	0.41	501	0,93	0,96	0,95	70	0,74	0,99	0,85
<i>Eutreptiella sp.</i>	1348	0.43	450	0,95	0,94	0,94	1678	0,90	0,76	0,83
<i>Licmophora sp.</i>	44	0.43	15	1,00	0,80	0,89	78	0,90	0,77	0,83
<i>Nodularia spumigena</i>	101	0.32	34	0,80	0,94	0,86	62	0,80	0,85	0,83
<i>Heterocapsa rotundata</i>	368	0.56	123	0,84	0,90	0,87	2609	0,89	0,70	0,78
<i>Ceratoneis closterium</i>	27	0.41	9	1,00	1,00	1,00	75	0,68	0,91	0,78
<i>Peridiniella catenata</i> single	539	0.52	180	0,89	0,97	0,93	222	0,75	0,81	0,78
Pennales thick	126	0.37	42	0,93	0,88	0,90	1088	0,72	0,85	0,78
<i>Thalassiosira levanderi</i>	1522	0.63	508	0,95	0,95	0,95	2008	0,87	0,68	0,77
<i>Chaetoceros sp. chain</i>	829	0.51	277	0,93	0,95	0,94	693	0,76	0,77	0,76
Centrales	288	0.51	96	0,98	0,89	0,93	92	0,77	0,68	0,72
<i>Dinophysis acuminata</i>	130	0.68	44	0,98	0,91	0,94	17	0,79	0,65	0,71
Pennales thin	469	0.29	156	0,96	0,99	0,97	334	0,61	0,84	0,71
<i>Cyclotella choctawhatcheeana</i>	61	0.47	21	0,89	0,81	0,85	199	0,92	0,57	0,71
Gymnodiniales	41	0.29	14	0,92	0,86	0,89	38	0,78	0,64	0,70

Table contains results of evaluation data for F1 > 0,7

# Group specific confusion of our evaluation data





# References and sources

- Kraft et al 2021. First application of IFCB high-frequency imaging-in-flow cytometry to investigate bloom-forming filamentous cyanobacteria in the Baltic Sea. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 282.
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- <https://www.finmari-infrastructure.fi/field-stations/uto-fmi/>
- <https://mclanelabs.com/imaging-flowcytobot/>